United Nations E/C.19/2004/5/Add.7

Economic and Social Council

Distr.: General
1 March 2004

Original: English

Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues
Third session
New York, 10-21 May 2004
Agenda item 4 of the provisional agenda*
Mandated areas

Information received from the United Nations system

Note by the Secretariat

Addendum

International Fund for Agricultural Development

Executive summary

Following recommendations made by the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues, International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is pleased to report that in 2003 it allocated US$ 138,120,000 in loans and US$ 1,256,000 in grants for projects in support of indigenous peoples. In addition, through grant financing to the World Agroforestry Centre, a partner organization, the following activities were successfully completed: (a) development and field-testing a methodology on conflict resolution management for *masyarakat adat* customary law of indigenous communities lands in Indonesia; (b) development and testing of a participatory methodology for comprehensive documentation of Subanen indigenous people's ethnobotanical knowledge and the protection of indigenous peoples' rights in the Philippines; (c) assistance in multi-stakeholder negotiation processes towards the integration/harmonization of development plans by local government and national line agencies with the Ancestral Domain Management Plans of the local indigenous communities in the Philippines; (d) selection of three sites inhabited by indigenous peoples (one in the Philippines and two in Indonesia) for a three-year action research that is expected to establish working models aimed at providing transfer payments and other rewards to the concerned indigenous communities for the environmental services they provide. Moreover, the International Land Coalition, hosted and

* E/C.19/2004/1.

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financed by IFAD, under its Community Empowerment Facility Programme, in 2003 contributed US$ 392,000 for six projects directly related to securing indigenous peoples' land rights.

IFAD supported the shooting of a documentary film on the Garo peoples in north-east India. The film, *Still, the Children Are Here*, was produced by Mira Nair and directed by Dinaz Stafford. The Fund also organized a one-day workshop with three representatives of the Permanent Forum. IFAD will co-finance the holding of regional consultations of indigenous women in Asia and, probably, in Latin America, as a preparatory activity to the third session of the Forum on indigenous women. The Fund, in collaboration with the Karl Kübel Stiftung Foundation, will hold a seminar in March 2004 in Coimbatore, India, on "Policy dialogue: enabling indigenous peoples to manage their natural resources".

I. Recommendations addressed exclusively to the International Fund for Agricultural Development

1. The Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues did not address any specific recommendation exclusively to the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD).

II. Recommendations addressed to several agencies

2. The Forum recommended that the Convention on Biological Diversity, in coordination with the World Bank, UNEP, UNDP, IFAD and FAO, organize a workshop on protecting sacred places and ceremonial sites of indigenous peoples. In that regard, in July 2003, IFAD contacted the secretariat of the Convention to plan that activity jointly. The secretariat replied that since that activity was not in their work plan, it needed to be discussed at their next planning meeting. They also suggested that they would contact IFAD if such an activity would be planned.

3. The other recommendation made by the Forum concerned the mobilization of resources for projects by indigenous peoples. In that regard, IFAD is pleased to report that in 2003 it allocated US$ 138,120,000 in loans and US$ 1,256,000 in grants for projects in support of indigenous peoples (see below, sect. III, and annex).

4. Finally, the Forum recommended that IFAD provide financial support to strengthen the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. IFAD has held discussions with the secretariat of the Permanent Forum to explore avenues of collaboration.

III. Other significant information regarding recent policies, programmes, budgetary allocations or activities regarding indigenous issues

5. As indicated before, during 2003, through its loans facility, IFAD started implementation of six projects directly supporting indigenous peoples. The projects covered four countries in Asia (India, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, and China) and one in Latin America (Ecuador). The total cost of the projects amounted to US$ 335,400,000 and the IFAD contribution amounted to US$ 138,120,000. The projects are expected to benefit about 566,000 indigenous households. IFAD also provided five grants (Brazil, the Amazon Basin, Guatemala, the Philippines and India) to indigenous organizations or to organizations supporting them; the total cost was US$ 2,470,000. IFAD contributed US$ 1,256,000 (for details, see annex).

6. In addition, the International Land Coalition, hosted and financed by IFAD, in 2003, under its Community Empowerment Facility Programme, initiated six projects in six countries (Argentina, Guyana, Guatemala, Philippines, Indonesia and Cameroon) directly related to securing land rights of indigenous communities or promoting indigenous natural resources management. The total cost of those projects was US$ 1,165,000; the contribution of the International Land Coalition amounted to US$ 392,000 (see annex).

7. Moreover, under a regional grant provided by the Fund to the World Agroforestry Centre, the following activities directly concerning indigenous peoples were undertaken:

(a) The World Agroforestry Centre, in collaboration with indigenous non-governmental organizations/indigenous peoples' organizations and local government, has developed and field-tested a methodology on conflict resolution management for *adat* (traditional) lands in West Kutai District in East Kalimantan, Indonesia. Training was conducted in 2003 for district/sub-district officials, *adat* leaders and village heads. The World Agroforestry Centre has been working on the recognition of *masyarakat adat* rights in East Kalimantan.

(b) In Lakewood, Western Mindanao, Philippines, a systematic and comprehensive documentation of Subanen indigenous people's ethnobotanical knowledge has been undertaken by Subanens themselves, covering a wide spectrum of plant species (and their varied uses) from important cultigens like root crops, leafy vegetables and fruit trees, to medicinal plants, ferns, palm and timber trees. The participatory methodology developed and field-tested for undertaking such ethnobotanical documentation (towards the creation of a "community registry") appears very promising with potential for broader replication and adaptation towards the protection of indigenous knowledge systems and indigenous peoples' rights.

(c) In Impasug-ong (Northern Mindanao Province, Philippines) and Bakun (Cordillera Province, Philippines), with the support of IFAD, the World Agroforestry Centre assisted in multi-stakeholder negotiation processes towards the integration/harmonization of development plans by local government and national line agencies with the Ancestral Domain Management Plans of the local indigenous communities.

8. Under another regional grant also provided to the World Agroforestry Centre, "Rewarding upland communities for the environmental services they provide", three of the five sites selected (Kalahan in the Philippines and Sumberjaya and Singarak Lake in Indonesia) for a three-years action research programme are inhabited by indigenous peoples. That action research is expected to establish working models aimed at providing transfer payments and other rewards to the concerned indigenous communities for the environmental services they provide. The environmental services considered in that initiative comprise watershed services, carbon and biodiversity.

9. In 2003, as part of its advocacy work in support to indigenous peoples and their cosmovision, IFAD supported the shooting of a documentary film on the Garo peoples in north-east India. The film, *Still, the Children Are Here*, was produced by Mira Nair and directed by Dinaz Stafford. It was shown in Rome in avant-première during the Roma Europe Festival. The film will soon enter the commercial circuit.

10. In December 2003 the Fund organized a one-day workshop with three representatives of the Permanent Forum, Ole Henrik Magga, Ayitegan Kouevi and Parshuram Tamang. Lee Swepston of ILO, Geneva, was also invited. The two sister organizations hosted by IFAD, the International Land Coalition and the Global Mechanism of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification, also participated in the event. The workshop allowed for a deeper mutual understanding of the mandate, scope of work and modus operandi of each organization and for fruitful exchanges on the way forward.

IV. Information regarding the special theme of the third session: "Indigenous women"

11. IFAD will co-finance the holding of regional consultations of indigenous women in Asia and, probably, in Latin America, as a preparatory activity to the third session of the Forum. IFAD also expects to show the documentary film *Still, the Children Are Here* at a side event being organized during the third session of the Permanent Forum. It shows a slice of life of the Garos of Meghalaya, in north-east India. The Garos are a matrilineal society (property passes to the most promising daughter and men live in their wives' house) with male leaders. In practice, this results in an unusual degree of gender equality. The film highlights the role of women in preserving indigenous culture and plant genetic resources (in this instance rice).

12. Finally, IFAD has requested the Forum secretariat to share its field-based experience with indigenous women at the High-Level Panel on Indigenous Women.

V. Conferences and meetings under IFAD regarding indigenous issues

13. The Fund, in collaboration with the Karl Kübel Stiftung Foundation, expects to hold a seminar in March 2004 in Coimbatore, India, on "Policy dialogue: enabling indigenous peoples to manage their natural resources". The results of that important workshop are expected to be diffused widely.

Annex

Projects initiated in 2003 focusing on indigenous peoples

Country	*Project title*	*Beneficiaries*	*Total cost (in millions of United States dollars)*	*IFAD contribution (in millions of United States dollars)*
Loans				
India	Livelihoods improvement project for the Himalayas	72 000 households	84.4	39.91
India	Orissa tribal empowerment and livelihoods programme	75 000 households	91.2	20
Indonesia	East Kalimantan local communities empowerment programme	39 000 households	26.47	19.9
Lao People's Democratic Republic	Oudomxai community initiatives support project	29 000 households	21.14	13.41
China	Environment conservation and poverty reduction programme — Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region and Shanxi Province	270 000 households	90.5	29
Peru	Market strengthening and livelihood diversification in the southern highland project	120 000 households	21.7	15.9
Subtotal		**665 000 households**	**335.41**	**138.12**
Grants				
Amazon Basin: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Panama, Peru, Venezuela	Regional support programme for indigenous peoples of the Amazon Basin, Phase III	Indigenous peoples of the Amazon Basin	1.83	0.88
Brazil	Support project for Ticuna education training of indigenous teachers	300 Ticuna teachers and about 12 000 Ticuna students	0.128	0.08
Guatemala	Livestock and forestry development in Quiché	558 householders, mostly indigenous	0.128	0.1
India	Community-managed resource centre at Laxmipuram	3 500 indigenous families	0.097	0.096
Philippines	Mapping ancestral domains of indigenous communities in northern Mindanao	9 indigenous peoples' organizations	0.286	0.1
Subtotal			**2.469**	**1.256**

Country	*Project title*	*Beneficiaries*	*Total cost (in millions of United States dollars)*	*International Law Commission contribution (in millions of United States dollars)*
International Land Coalition Community Empowerment Facility Programme				
Argentina	Strengthening a sustainable development platform of farmers and indigenous organization, encompassing access to land, water and productive activities in the regions of El Gran Chaco Americano, Puna America and Desert of Mendoza	9 200 families	0.206	0. 06
Guyana	Protecting indigenous peoples' land and resource rights in the Upper Mazaruni River Basin of Guyana	About 3 800 indigenous persons	0.13	0.097
Guatemala	Legal advice to support security of tenure in the southern coast of Guatemala	7 017 householders, in 117 communities of 11 departments	0.048	0.048
Philippines	Mapping the ancestral domains of indigenous people in Mindanao	11 communities	0.282	0.074
Indonesia	Strengthening indigenous knowledge in the land rehabilitation in West Kalimatan	Indigenous communities	0.078	0.065
Cameroon	Promoting natural resources management by indigenous communities in the Ngovayang Forest	Indigenous communities	0.421	0.048
Total			**1.165**	**0.0392**